

Washington, D.C. 20505

16 June 1977

Pl. 41.1

Mr. Beverly D. Causey, Jr.
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Geneva, New York 14456

Dear Pete,

Thank you for your very thoughtful letter of May 26. I was glad to hear that declassified CIA documents contributed in some way to the success of your course, and particularly that they enhanced your students' understanding of the Agency's product.

In response to your question, I can report that we are undertaking the large and complex task of declassifying old CIA documents. As you probably know, we are required by Executive Order to automatically declassify material that is thirty years old, unless there remains a substantial national security concern or a source would be endangered. Because this year marks the Agency's thirtieth anniversary, we began establishing the necessary machinery to comply with the Executive Order last January.

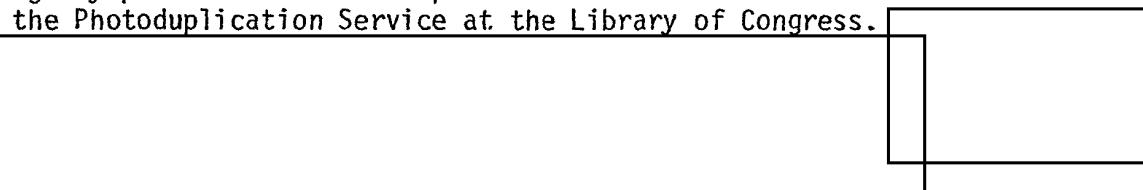
We will systematically review file systems in five-year blocks. The documents declassified will be available to the public through the National Archives. Declassified OSS materials, which have been under review during the last three years, are also available at the National Archives.

You are probably aware that Agency documents that have been declassified on a more ad hoc basis are available through the Carrollton Press, 1911 Fort Myer Drive, #905, Arlington, Virginia, 22209. In case you are not aware, our current unclassified publications are available on a subscription basis from the Library of Congress. If you or your college library

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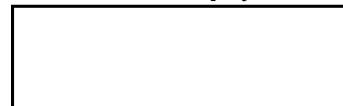
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would like more information, you can write to the Document Expediting (DOCEX) Project, Exchange and Gift Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., 20540. Reproductions of specific Agency publications can be purchased on an individual basis from the Photoduplication Service at the Library of Congress.



As you can see, our materials are becoming much more widely available. I think that is a healthy trend. I hope that you will be able to add interest to your courses by exploiting these resources.

Faithfully yours,



E. H. Knoche



SUBJECT: Reply to letter from Mr. Beverly D. Causey, Jr. dated 26 May 1977, signed by Mr. E. Henry Knoche, regarding declassification of thirty year old CIA documents

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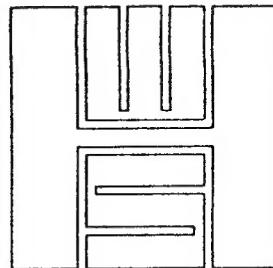
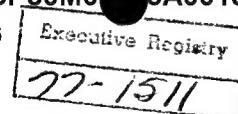
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Yours sincerely,

E. H. Knoche

Geneva, New York 14456
(315) 789-5500



Hickart & William Smith Colleges

May 26, 1977

Mr. E. Henry Knoche
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Hank:

Here is a communication which you may wish to pass on
STAT to some one [redacted] or throw in the
waste basket. It concerns declassification of documents.

During the academic year just completed, a member of our Political Science department and I gave a course on foreign policy decision making and the use of intelligence. I have attached a summary statement about the course. (In addition to the subjects mentioned in the summary, the course dealt with the Cuban missile crisis.)

We found that certain declassified CIA documents were available in microfiche through a publishing service. These were:

SR 8. The China Situation Report of 1947-48.
A special evaluation prepared in ORE on the Berlin situation at the beginning of 1948.
NIE 2/1 on Korea, dated Nov. 24, 1950.
NIE 100-4-55 on the Taiwan Straits problem.
One issue of the Daily Korean Bulletin (1951).
Two NIEs on the Cuban Missile Crisis.

To me this seemed a rather random and limited assortment. The availability of estimates was quite spotty, and there was almost no current intelligence.

There were, of course, other materials -- State department documents through 1949, memoirs of President Truman and President Eisenhower, books by Allen Dulles and Lyman Kirkpatrick, and others.

I have wondered if there is in progress any systematic declassification of CIA documents which are now of more historic than current interest and, if so, what access an outsider might have to such materials?

Mr. Knoche

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5/26/77

There was considerable student interest in the course, and it gave the students some appreciation of the productive activity of the CIA -- quite different from their usual impressions of the Agency. We may well want to repeat the course, perhaps with different topics which would again deal with matters 15 years or more in the past.

Yours sincerely,

Beverley D. Causey, Jr.

Beverley D. Causey, Jr.
Professor of History

BDC:lp

Enc.

Baccalaureate Colloquium 429-430
History/Political Science
Foreign Policy Decisions and Intelligence

Winter/Spring
Causey/Beckman

This colloquium will focus on six selected foreign policy problems and crises periods in international relations, drawn mainly from the period World War II to the 1970's. The historical background and evolution of these cases will be considered, with special attention to the availability and [redacted] material. Models of decision making and hypotheses regarding the role of intelligence will be introduced to tie together the various cases.

Attention will be given to the adequacy and importance of information and intelligence in foreign policy decision making, with use of illustrations from United States intelligence activities, including the estimation of other's capabilities and intentions, the analysis of current information, and the problems of intelligence coordination and use by decision-makers.

The six cases to be considered are Hitler's reoccupation of the Rhineland, American involvement in the Chinese civil war, the Berlin blockade, the North Korean attack on South Korea, the Formosa Straits crisis of 1955 [redacted]

The first term will involve regular meetings, discussions and lectures; in the spring term students will select a foreign policy event and investigate the decisions leading to that event and the role intelligence played in the decisions. Thus the normal sequence for colloquia will be reversed.

Spring Term: independent research projects with 3 meetings to discuss methods, analysis, and findings. During the last week of the term certain students shall be invited to make informal presentations of their findings.

The research paper will center on a foreign policy event and will discuss the evolution of the problem, use source materials in the analysis, and compare the event with the events discussed in the winter portion of the course and/or with various models or theories posed to account for the process of decision making and the role of intelligence.



Mr. S. Henry Knobbe
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C.

457 CASTLE STREET
GENEVA, NEW YORK 14456

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2637 (8-77) *But this opens a new issue - declassifying on dated content* 38

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